

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re PCT National Phase Patent Application of

Markus GEHRIG, et al.

Date: September 10, 2003

Parent Serial No.: 10/049,097

Group Art Unit: 1775

Parent Filed: February 5, 2002

Examiner: Michael E. Lavilla

For: Method For Shaping An Initial Profile Or A Similar Workpiece Using An  
Internal High-Pressure And Profile Therefore

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Commissioner of Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

S I R:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed on the enclosed Form PTO 1449. Copies of the listed foreign documents are also enclosed.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted simultaneously with the filing of the present application.

German reference 35 32 499 discloses a device for the hydraulic expansion of length of pipe using a plug-like cylindrical probe. This reference is discussed in greater detail in the specification of the present application and the Examiner's attention is respectfully directed to

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that discussion. Applicants do not have an English language translation of this reference readily available. However, an English language abstract thereof is enclosed.

German reference 42 14 557 discloses a method for hydraulic expansion of closed hollow profiles. Applicants do not have an English language translation of this reference readily available. However, an English language abstract thereof is enclosed.

German reference 198 13 012 discloses a method and apparatus for manufacturing a hollow body from a tubular blank by internal high-pressure shaping. This reference corresponds to U.S. Patent No. 6,112,567, a copy of which is also enclosed.

German reference 198 03 738 discloses a method for producing hollow profiles. Applicants do not have an English language translation of this reference readily available. However, an English language abstract thereof is enclosed.

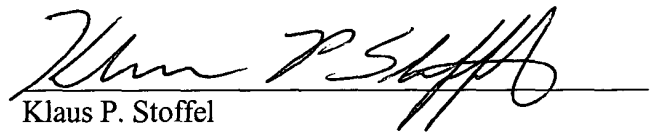
The present invention defines a specific method for shaping an initial profile or a similar workpiece using an internal high pressure, and a profile therefore, which are not believed to be disclosed by the enclosed references.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§1.97(g) and (h), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement should not be construed as a representation that a search has been made or that information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in §1.56(b), or that any cited document listed or attached is (or constitutes) prior art. Unless otherwise indicated, the date of publication indicated for an item is taken from the face of the item and Applicants reserve the right to prove that the date of publication is in fact different.

It is respectfully requested that the above information be considered by the Examiner and that the copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be returned indicating that such information has been considered.

In the event the fee is inadvertently not enclosed or if any additional fee during the prosecution of this application is not paid, the Patent Office is authorized to charge the underpayment to Deposit Account No. 15-0700.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Klaus P. Stoffel', is written over a horizontal line.

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U. S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
Sheet 1 of 1

**LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT**

Atty Docket No.: P/4303-30 Filing Date: Herewith  
Serial No.: Unassigned Group Art Unit: 1775  
Applicant: Markus GEHRIG, et al.

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

*Ex. Intls.		Document No.	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date
	AA	5,339,667	08/1994	Shah, et al.			
	AB	6,151,940	11/2000	Amborn, et al.			
	AC	6,112,567	09/2000	Birkert			
	AD	3,209,432	10/1965	Cape			
	AE						
	AF						

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

*Ex. Intls.		Document No.	Date	Country	Name	Class	Subclass	Translation Yes/No
	AG	42 14 557	11/1993	Germany				
	AH	34 32 499	11/1986	Germany				
	AI	198 13 012	10/1999	Germany				
	AJ	198 03 738	08/1999	Germany				
	AK							

**OTHER REFERENCES (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)**

	AL		
	AM		
	AN		

EXAMINER: DATE CONSIDERED:

\* EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.